

Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1 Individual Application Summary

Project Name [Number]	Castroville Library 1015	Current Square Footage	0
Applicant	Monterey, County of	Project Square Footage	9,163
Operating Library Jurisdiction	Monterey County Free Libraries	Service Area Population:	37,624
Project Type	New Library	Anticipated Construction Start Date:	10/15/2003
Project Priority	1st	Total Library Project Amount	\$4,942,244
Joint Use Type	Joint Venture	State Grant Amount	\$3,159,594
Multipurpose?	YES		
Leased Site:	NO		

Bond Act Factors [California Code of Regulations Title 5, Section 19998 (a)]

	Rated	Other
Urban/Rural:		[see map]
Population Growth:		44%
Financial capacity of applicant to open and maintain operation of the library (new libraries only):		Yes
Age and Condition of Existing Library:	No existing library (= Outstanding)	
Inadequacy of the existing library in meeting needs of residents and the response of proposed project to meeting the needs:	Acceptable	
Plan of Service integrates appropriate technology:	Acceptable	
Appropriateness of Proposed Site:	Very Good	

Overall Rating:

Acceptable

Summary of Review Panel Comments

Population Growth 43.9%

Age and Condition of Existing Facility There is no existing public library.

Needs of Residents/Response of Proposed Project to Needs This is a multipurpose project with other tenants including county offices and a child and family development center. It will serve the residents of Castroville and Moss Landing as a community branch library. The needs assessment is based on user surveys and interviews with community leaders/agencies, and the library is an integral part of the revitalization plan. Surveys were conducted in both Spanish and English, but with a relatively low response rate from the Hispanic residents. Little is said about the specific needs of students beyond indication that they need a homework center. No evidence that students were a part of the needs assessment.

The plan of service is a strong, general outline of goals and objectives, but lacks specifics and an implementation plan. Rather than meet the request for expanded hours, the plan will be to provide more evening hours. The addition of .75 FTE staff member is planned, as is recruitment for volunteers. Needs of Spanish speaking community are addressed in planned acquisition of bilingual and Spanish language materials.

The building program follows from the needs assessment. Spaces are adequately described, including spatial relationships.

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The conceptual plans adequately incorporate the requirements of the building program.

Joint use agreement: Homework Center The agreement does not represent a partnership between the two parties, but more closely resembles the types of library services that are provided by a public library in the course of providing library services for all user groups in the service area.

Plan of Service Integrates Appropriate Technology Basic types of technology required for today's public library are included, but resources are mentioned in general terms and do not respond specifically to the needs of the residents (e.g., English proficiency, bilingual, etc.). Technology upgrade, including public access computers, Internet access, LAN, and WAN (County Library), self-checkout, and teleconferencing capability are included.

Appropriateness of Proposed Site The site is centrally located in the library's service area. Within Castroville, the site is located near an historic landmark church and town square, and is on the highest point in the area. It will link the commercial area with the residential area. In keeping with the revitalization plan, there will be no on-site parking in order to maximize the available land for buildings and a pedestrian environment, but there is ample curb-side parking within 500' of the entrance. Currently 2 bus routes stop within 1/2 block of the site, and a Caltrans commuter station is planned for 1/2 mile from the site. Most Castroville residents will be within walking distance of the library.

Financial Capacity The applicant has committed to the on-going operation of the completed library.